

Congressman Bill Thomas

22nd District, California

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Port San Luis Breakwater Slated to Receive \$500,000 for Repairs

The earthquake-damaged Port San Luis Breakwater in San Luis Obispo will receive federal funding for repairs if legislation passed by the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate is signed into law.

Congressman Bill Thomas announced that the final version of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2005, which was approved by both houses of Congress Saturday, includes \$500,000 to conduct repairs on the breakwater. The funding was included in the bill at the joint request of Thomas and Congresswoman Lois Capps (D-Santa Barbara).

The breakwater, located near Avila Beach, is owned and maintained by the United States Army Corps of Engineers. It protects three publicly-owned piers, including the Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo Marine Science Center. In addition, the breakwater provides protection to the area by serving to dissipate swells produced by the Pacific Ocean that can damage roads, bridges, seawalls and infrastructure within the Port San Luis Harbor District. Funding in federal spending legislation was necessary since the breakwater is federal property, and as such is ineligible for emergency funding provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2005 will now be sent to President Bush for his signature.

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